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Citation

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. (2007). Benefactor, Winter 2007. *Benefactor*, 7 (1) Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.uark.edu/benefactor/2>

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the Benefactor



A Newsletter for Benefactors of the University of Arkansas Fund-Raising Programs

Vol. 7, Issue 1, Winter 2007

'79 Champion Razorback Seniors Honor Weber

SCHOLARSHIP CREATED IN ATHLETIC TRAINER'S NAME



Dean Weber, front left, stands with members of the 1979 Razorback football team.

The seniors of the 1979 Razorback football team established an endowed scholarship to honor Dean Weber, the long-time director of athletic training at the University of Arkansas.

The 1979 University of Arkansas Razorback football team is one that fans will never forget. This team became the Southwest Conference Football Champions and then faced the Alabama Crimson Tide during the Jan. 1, 1980, Sugar Bowl. Even though Arkansas lost to Alabama — the team that went on to win the national championship — this exciting time in Arkansas history exemplified the commitment, teamwork and passion of the Razorbacks.

Seniors from the 1979 team joined together once again to honor Weber by establishing a scholarship endowment in his name. During their time as student-athletes, the teammates formed long, lasting friendships with Weber and knew they wanted to recognize his dedication to them and to the university. The purpose of the Dean Weber Scholarship Fund is to provide educational opportunities for students who are involved in the Athletic Training Education Program. More than \$30,000 has been raised by the classmates for this effort.

Weber said: "This is definitely the highest honor one could hope to achieve: to be associated with an entire class of alumni athletes who have become your friends over the past 30 years and to be honored in a way that helps other university students in their pursuit of education. The 1979 Southwest Conference football champion seniors are to be commended for their achievements in this endeavor."

Clay Edwards, associate vice chancellor for university development, said: "When the seniors from the 1979 Razorback football team approached us about doing something special for Dean, each person was adamant that this be given as a team — not as individuals. This group of student-athletes worked together

1979 Champion Razorback Seniors

Mike Burlingame
Mike Burchfield
Robert Farrell
Stan Freeman
Tom Ginn
Chuck Herman
Jim Howard

Greg Kolenda
Birt Locke
Mike Massey
Marty Mitcham
Roland Sales
Kevin Scanlon
Kirk Woolfolk

years ago to achieve great things, and they worked together again to fulfill this significant goal on behalf of someone who is so meaningful to them."

Frank Broyles said: "This was the last Senior Class I recruited, and they are a very special group of men. They were close as players and have remained close all these years. This is just like them: selfless and always thinking of the team first. We are so grateful they have done this for Dean. Dean's work with our athletes has been an important part of our success over the years."

The 1979 Razorback football team had one of the great seasons in school history. They were called "a team without stars" because of their focus on team accomplishments rather than individual recognition. The key to their success was attributed to the play and leadership of a strong senior class. The class members were well known for their close bond as friends and players, and prided themselves on being their best as a group rather than as individual players.

Kevin Scanlon, a '79 teammate, said, "Our friendship with each other and with Dean is our biggest success."

At their 25th reunion celebration in 2004, the seniors decided to commit themselves as a group to a project that would have a lasting effect and further strengthen their bond. They established three goals for their project: to continue their practice of achieving 100 percent participation as a group of 14 teammates, to give back to the University of Arkansas, and to honor their good friend Dean Weber for his friendship and his years of service and dedication to the university and the many student-athletes under his care. With 100 percent participation from the group, they achieved their goal with the establishment and funding of the Dean Weber Scholarship Fund.

It is with "gratitude, pride, admiration and love that we thank Dean," said Jim "Blue Dog" Howard, a '79 teammate. ■



Thoughts from the chairman...

When I attended the University of Arkansas, the campus was beautiful. The surrounding views were breathtaking, especially in the fall. At that time in my life, I wasn't thinking about the future of this fine institution or what it would become decades down the road.



Julian Stewart

Now, when I visit campus, I am amazed. Amazed at the progress and amazed at the change. Amazed at how much we've grown without losing the beauty and the sense of comfort and "home" I've loved for so long.

This issue of the Benefactor highlights a few of the celebrations that occurred during the last several months — honoring mentors, breaking ground for buildings, opening tailgating grounds and re-dedicating campus landmarks. It is an incredible time for the University of Arkansas. And, we sure are growing.

In June, seniors from the 1979 Razorback football team united to endow a scholarship in honor of Dean Weber, the university's director of athletic training. When I heard about this gift, I was moved. This act of generosity proves that students are forever affected by their time at the university. The Razorback experience is not one that is forgotten after graduation day.

In early September, just before the first game of the Razorback football season, the university dedicated the Jerry Jones and Jim Lindsey Gardens on Razorback Road. This is a wonderful, much-needed area where fans tailgate before games and special events take place. Arriving at the first football game of the year, I could tell the spirit near the new tailgating spot was alive.

One week later, construction began on the new university chancellor's residence, made possible by Wallace and Jama Fowler. This facility will provide an ideal meeting space for welcoming visitors and guests to the university. As a major research university, Arkansas needs such a facility.

Finally, in late October, Chi Omega Fraternity re-dedicated their Greek Theatre — originally constructed and dedicated in 1930. Previous re-dedications took place in 1980 and again in 1995. It is wonderful to see an historic structure being renovated and maintained, while honoring the tradition of its beginning.

You can see the future of the University of Arkansas is anything but stagnant. We continue to grow and flourish, without losing the core of this institution. The University of Arkansas has been a leader for a long time, and enhancements like the ones mentioned in this newsletter are only the beginning. Great things are happening and I feel lucky to be a part of it all.

Sincerely,

Julian
Julian C. Stewart
Chair, Board of Advisors

School of Law Honors Beasley CEREMONY CELEBRATES NEW ENTRANCE HALL

The University of Arkansas School of Law honored Norma Beasley, a 1953 graduate of the law school, during a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a luncheon Oct. 19 in the new Norma Lea Beasley Entrance Hall. In addition, the Women's Law School Association hosted a tea with Beasley to honor her generous \$1 million donation to the law school building campaign and the new entrance hall, and her longtime support of the U of A law program.

Beasley is a senior attorney and counselor at Beasley & Williams, LLP, of Dallas, and she owns five title companies where she serves as chairman of the board and the chief executive officer. Through years of hard work, she became what Cases of Women Who Have Won (1999) call "one of the most successful women executives in the country" and was selected by NBC's Today Show as one of the most outstanding business women in America. She has been featured in several books including Who's Who of American Law and the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership.



Cynthia Nance, dean, School of Law with Beasley

Among countless educational honors and contributions, Beasley was the first woman to deliver the commencement address for the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the U of A in 1997. ■

School of Architecture Names Gallery, Lecture Hall

The Paul Young III (B.S.B.A., 1962) Family Trust gave more than \$226,000 to the University of Arkansas School of Architecture in honor of Paul Young Jr. In recognition of the gift, the space in Vol Walker Hall known informally as the Large Gallery was formally named the Paul Young Jr. Gallery to memorialize the life and career of a long-time Fayetteville architect. Young served as the architect for several well-known buildings in Northwest Arkansas including the Washington County Hospital in 1948, the University of Arkansas Law School building in



Members of Paul Young Jr.'s family after the gallery dedication

1951 and the university's Delta Gamma House — now University House — in 1958.

The School of Architecture also recently dedicated the Ken Shollmier Lecture Hall. On Christmas day five years ago, Ken Shollmier surprised his wife Linda Sue with a \$1 million gift to support architecture and business programs at the University of Arkansas. One of the projects funded by the gift, a full renovation of the School of Architecture's lecture hall, was celebrated with the dedication of the space as the Ken Shollmier Lecture Hall. The Linda Sue Shollmier plaza that will anchor the Sam M. Walton College of Business quad is currently under construction, with completion projected for July 2007.

In addition to this gift, the Shollmiers provided funds for Outstanding Faculty Awards to be given each year in the amount of at least \$5,000 to deserving faculty members in all colleges of the university. Along with his brother Dudley Shollmier of Little Rock, they made a \$250,000 gift to the Walton College to establish the Shollmier MBA Investment Fund, which allows MBA students to purchase and manage an investment portfolio.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the lecture hall, and I just hope it helps the students out," Shollmier said. ■

Tailgating Gardens Dedicated GIFT FROM JERRY JONES AND JIM LINDSEY MAKE DREAMS A REALITY

The University of Arkansas dedicated The Gardens, a new facility fit for the most loyal Razorback fans. Chancellor John White and Athletic Director Frank Broyles hosted the celebration Sept. 2 in the Holding Pen Pavilion at The Gardens. At the ceremony, UA alumni Jerry Jones and Jim Lindsey were honored for their long-standing leadership and philanthropy to the university.

"Being able to provide beautiful landscaping and functional areas for pre-game entertaining will enhance our fans' tailgating experiences," said Broyles. "It will be great to see our alumni and friends enjoying each game to the fullest."

The Gardens feature one pavilion, five gazebos and individual grass areas that tailgaters can reserve for their pre-game activities. The pavilion holds approximately 120 people and includes private bathrooms and 15 parking passes in lot 56B. Each gazebo holds up to 50 people and includes five parking passes in lot 56B. Gazebos are named as follows:



NCAA National Champions Gazebo, 1964 & 1965 Football Teams Gazebo, George Family Gazebo, Stanley Reed Family Gazebo and the Charles & Clydene Scharlau Family Gazebo.

Individual grass areas are available to individuals who contribute \$500 per year to the Razorback Foundation Inc. annual football fund. For the season, individuals who reserve grass areas are provided with a 15-foot by 12-foot space adjacent to their parking spot.

While the pavilion, gazebos and the reserved tailgate spots are rented spaces, any Razorback fan can come and enjoy the atmosphere in The Gardens. A large grass area in the center of The Gardens is available for use by anyone at no cost on game days. Fans can gain access to The Gardens off Razorback Road just inside lot 56 south of The Gardens and to the north off Leroy Pond Road.

"Mr. Jones' and Mr. Lindsey's vision of a centralized grass area for Razorback fans to come together before games has been realized with The Gardens," said Matt Shanklin, associate athletic director for marketing. "Whether you rent a space or gazebo or just bring your chair, pup tent and cooler, The Gardens are destined to become a great place for Razorbacks fans."

Lindsey is the vice chairman of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees and the founder of Lindsey & Associates Inc. Real Estate. He and Jones, owner of the Dallas Cowboys football team, were members of the 1964 championship Razorback football team. They have each supported the university and its athletics programs for years. ■

Chi Omega Celebrates Greek Theatre Renovation

The University of Arkansas rededicated the Chi Omega Greek Theatre Oct. 22. This event celebrated completion of the most recent renovation to this historical campus landmark.

Jane Rogers (B.A. 1968), a member of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, is also the president of the Chi Omega Foundation and is a member of the Psi Chapter of the Chi Omega Fraternity. She said: "Thoughts of the upcoming rededication ceremony bring tears of joy to my eyes. Chi Omega was a huge part of my life during my years at the University of Arkansas, and it continues to be today. Preserving this structure is important not only to Chi Omega members, but to the entire university community. By working to maintain the beauty and history of the theatre, it will be enjoyed by students for years to come. I am honored to be a part of this celebration."

With cooperation and assistance from the University of Arkansas, the Chi Omega Greek Theatre was constructed and dedicated in 1930. Previous renovation of this historic structure occurred just prior to the June 23, 1980, rededication of the theatre (the 50th anniversary of its completion) and again in 1995 to commemorate Chi Omega's centennial celebration.

The latest renovation focused on the replacement of the primary wooden arch and repair to the supporting columns. The wooden arch was the centerpiece of

the theatre. Project heroes are Mark Ramm and David Ramm and the employees of Arkansas Precast Corporation in Little Rock who not only assured Chi Omega Fraternity that precast concrete was the appropriate solution, but whose beautiful work of arts exceeded all expectations..

The Greek Theatre stands today as a loving tribute to the founders of Chi Omega and an expression of gratitude to the University of Arkansas, and it is the only structure of its kind built by a fraternal organization and one of few such theatres in the country.

Speakers at the celebration included:

- Sandra K. Edwards, associate vice chancellor of development, University of Arkansas
- John A. White, chancellor, University of Arkansas
- Sandra Connor, chair, Greek Theatre; and member, Chi Omega Fraternity, Psi Chapter
- Jean Mrasek, national president, Chi Omega Fraternity, Epsilon Gamma Chapter
- Sheffield Duke, president, Chi Omega Fraternity, Psi Chapter
- Jane Rogers, trustee, University of Arkansas; president, Chi Omega Foundation; and member, Chi Omega Fraternity, Psi Chapter. ■



NORTHWEST ARKANSAS CELEBRATES NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY

The Northwest Arkansas chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) recognized local philanthropists during a Nov. 15 presentation honoring National Philanthropy Day. This day celebrates the spirit of giving that is so evident in Northwest Arkansas and emphasizes the impact of philanthropy on the community.

The Northwest Arkansas Chapter of AFP was established in 2001. For more than 40 years, AFP has been the standard-bearer for professionalism in fundraising. The association represents more than 27,000 members in 180 chapters throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and China.

For more information, please visit www.afpnwark.org.

Honorees:

- Frank Broyles - Judges' Special Award
- Hershey and Denise Garner - Outstanding Philanthropists of the Year
- Bob and Diane Shaw - Lifetime Philanthropic Achievement Award
- J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc. - Outstanding Corporation of the Year
- Donald W. Reynolds Foundation - Outstanding Foundation Award
- Woody Bassett - Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser Award



Breaking Ground for Chancellor's Residence

In 2005, Wallace and Jama Fowler of Jonesboro made a \$1.75 million gift commitment toward the construction of a university chancellor's residence on the University of Arkansas campus. And, on Sept. 9, the university began construction. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on the corner of Razorback Road and Maple Street, the site of the future residence.

G. David Gearhart, vice chancellor for University Advancement, said: "To effectively greet and entertain the university's most important visitors and guests – donors, state and federal legislators, foreign dignitaries, corporate executives, students and the public – the university needs such a facility. All of our Southeastern Conference peers have official residences that can accommodate large gatherings, as do most major national universities. Many other Arkansas institutions also have presidents' or chancellors' residences. They serve as focal points for activities promoting and representing the university."

"The Fowlers have been loyal supporters of the university for many years and it is wonderful to see their gift put into action. I look forward to the day when this project is complete and the university community can begin to enjoy this much-needed and long-awaited facility," Gearhart said.

Chancellor John A. White said: "When I first came to the university, there was already a great deal of discussion around building a chancellor's residence. The Fowlers' generosity has enabled us to make our plans a reality. It will mean a great

deal to the future of this institution to have a meeting place that is ideal for welcoming visitors and guests to the University of Arkansas."

Wallace Fowler attended the University of Arkansas and is chairman and chief executive officer of Liberty Bank of Arkansas as well as chairman of Fowler Foods Inc. He was a member of the Campaign for the Twenty-First Century Steering Committee and a member of the Leadership and Principal Gifts Committee. Examples of the Fowlers' wide-ranging giving to civic and social causes throughout Arkansas include the Fowler Center, a multipurpose community center at Arkansas State University, and their support of the Arkansas State University Museum. Jama Fowler is an active volunteer in the Jonesboro community. They are members of the University of Arkansas Chancellor's Society.

Chancellor White with Wallace and Jama Fowler

Mr. Fowler has been a member of the chairman's council of the 2004 Southern Legislative Conference, the Board of Directors of the Arkansas State University Foundation Inc., the Northeast Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, the Governor's Citizens Council on Highways and Transportation, and the Greater Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce, among his many affiliations. ASU named Mr. Fowler the Business Executive of the Year in 2003. He was honored with the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in 2002.

The Fowlers have three children, Wallace Fowler Jr., Chris Fowler and Mark Fowler. ■



Contact the University of Arkansas to learn more about how you can benefit UA fund-raising programs.

G. David Gearhart
Vice Chancellor
University Advancement
(479) 575-6800

Sandra K. Edwards
Associate Vice Chancellor
University Development
(479) 575-7206

Clay Edwards
Associate Vice Chancellor
University Development
(479) 575-5362

Office of University Development
University House
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville AR 72701-1201
(479) 575-5507
or 800-317-7526
FAX (479) 575-6198

Editorial Staff

Danielle Povar
Communications Manager
Amanda Ryan
Designer
Russell Cothren
Photographer

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